



# Fire District Update

Volume I, Issue I

Year 2005

## Special points of interest:

- Fire District looks towards Expansion.
- Advance training completed
- Who are We?
- ISO Ratings
- Mill levy break down
- Run Totals



Above—Barn Fire West of Casper 2004

Below—Excavator Fire East of Casper 2004



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## NCFPD Looks at Expansion

Over the past year the Fire District has been looking into expanding its services. The first expansion would be a substation located west of town off of hwy 20-26, by the airport. This would provide better response and coverage for the West Yellowstone and Vista West area's.

Another area the Fire District has looked at expanding into is the Hat Six/ Cole Creek area. But adding a substation in this area would be after a Westside substation is up and running. Currently there is more of a need for a Westside substation, i.e. more population and businesses.

But before any expansion can take place, there has to be enough funding

to support the expansion. Currently the Fire District has just enough funding for 12 firefighters, 1 Inspector, 1 Chief and 2 part-time secretaries. . By having 4 firefighters on duty everyday, it allows us to maintain a minimum of 3 firefighters on duty a day. This helps eliminate overtime cost due to vacation and sick leave.

If the Fire District does expand, the main station will drop to 3 firefighters a day and the new substation will then have between 2 to 3 firefighters on duty a day. On a basic response we need a minimum of 3 firefighters. That gives us 1 firefighter to pump the truck and leaves 2 to enter the fire and begin rescue and firefighting operations.

In order to expand safely

we would have to hire and train 6 more firefighters. In addition, there would have to be call backs to cover the main and substation for firefighters on vacation or sick leave to maintain the 3 firefighter minimum.

So as you can see, adding a substation will be a large funding expense.

The Fire District is also looking at trying to do joint fire stations with other local fire departments, creating combination volunteer/paid departments, which would help on expansion cost.

The Fire District wants to make sure the funding will be available and stable before expanding. The last thing the Fire District wants to do is expand and then have to close a substation down due to funding.

## Advance Training Completed

Congratulations to Howard, Rick, Ben and Matt for completing advance medical skills class. The training they completed now gives the Fire District the ability to do some very

advanced cardiac intervention. They were trained on the use of cardiac medication and manual heart defibrillation.

Ben Leonard our medical director worked on getting

a 90/10 grant for the new Defibrillator.

This training combined with a new manual heart defibrillator will have a positive impact on the people we serve.

## Who Are We?

The Natrona County Fire Protection District (NCFPD) came into existence through a special election in the fall of 1992. The Fire District is comprised of 5200 square miles

of the unincorporated areas of Natrona County. The Fire District has a Fire District Board for administration of the revenues. In March of 2003 a special election was held to increase the size of the board from 3 to 5 board

members. This decision was based on the 2002 tax revenue, that went over 1 million dollars. The main reasons for the revenue increase is due to appraised property values being higher and the  
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increase of oil and gas production in Natrona County. The NCFPD first full fiscal year was 7-93 to 7-94. The budget for the first year was \$548,073.75 dollars. In 1993, because of low revenues we cut 3 firefighter positions and our 2 fire inspectors. Every year the Fire District goes through a fiscal audit to account for every penny being spent. The Fire District has to request and show justification for the 3 Mill Levy to the Natrona County Commissioners every year. Most of the money paid into the Fire District comes from oil and gas located in Natrona County.

## ISO Ratings

This past August we underwent an ISO evaluation. Insurance companies use ISO's information to help determine insurance rates on residential and commercial properties. ISO scores a community based on the following:

50% is based on the fire department. Such as response times, training records, maintenance

records, inspection records, hose and apparatus tests, etc.

40% is the available water supplies in the area and the distance to each water source. (hydrants)

And....10% is based on our dispatch center, how fast is the 911 call dispatched.

The new ratings will be available

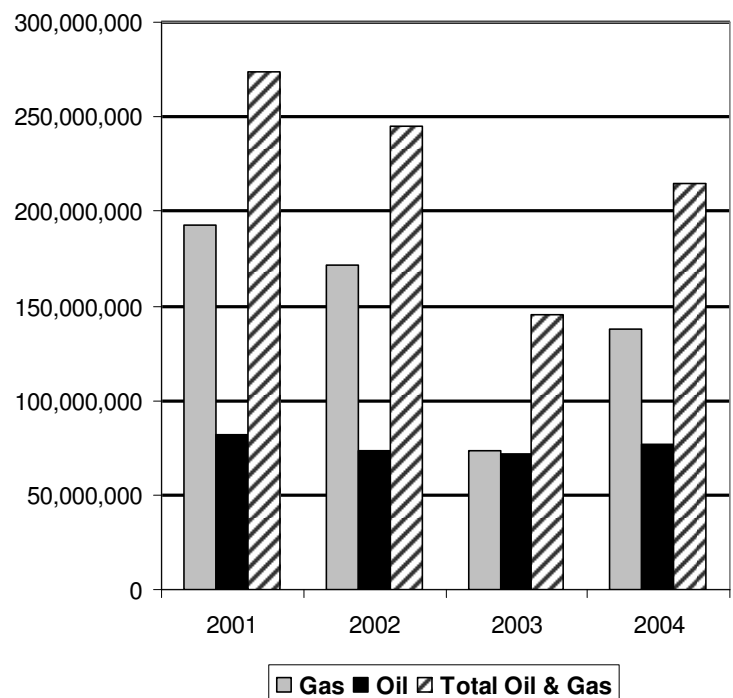
sometime late spring. We are hoping to see no increases. Some areas that have a good chance of remaining the same or having a decrease are Hwy 220 from Wolf Creek to just past Gothberg Rd, East Yellowstone Hwy and the Brookhurst area, West Yellowstone and the Vista West area.

## Revenues

The Fire district receives its revenue from a 3 Mill Levy. Our money comes from taxes on property, State oil & gas royalties, motor vehicle and mobile equipment. We have also received some money from grants for fire and medical equipment. Every year we send fire trucks out of our county and state to fight fires. These trucks on average bring into the Fire District between \$35K to \$60K dollars a year. This money is then used to buy fire equipment and trucks for the Fire District.

The Chart to the right is the dollar evaluation for oil and gas production in Natrona County from 2001 to 2004. Keep in mind that the Mill Levy is based off of the prior years production. Such as the 2004 Mill Levy is based on 2003 production totals, it is always a year behind. Oil and Gas is the Fire District's main source of revenue.

Oil & Gas Production



## What is a Mill Levy?

The Fire District currently receives 3 Mills. A Mill is one one-thousandth of a dollar. At 3 Mills, a property with an appraised value of:

**\$100,000.00** would pay **\$28.50** into the fire district a year.

**\$150,000.00** would pay **\$42.75** a year.

**\$200,000.00** would pay **\$57.00** a year.

**\$400,000.00** would pay **\$114.00** a year.

As you can see, residential property is not the Fire District's main source of funding.

## Current NCFPD Run Totals for 2004

<u>Medical Call</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Fire &amp; Related Calls</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Other Call</u>	<u>Total</u>
Abdominal Pain	10	Alarm Fire	43	Agency Assist	5
Accident PI	232	Aircraft	7	Missing Person	1
Alarm Medical	5	Explosion	1	Reddi Report	2
Allergy	7	False Alarm (no fire)	5	Service Call	27
Assault	9	Fire Hazard	1	Welfare Check	6
Back Pain	4	Fuel Spill	4	Other	16
Breathing Problem	76	Gas Detector	2		
Burn	4	Gas Leak	17		
Cardiac Problem/Pain	56	Haz Mat	4		
Childbirth	2	Illegal Burning	1		
Convulsions	5	Misc. Fire	8		
CO Poisoning	2	Power Line Down	12		
Dead Body	3	Refuse Fire	14		
Diabetic Shock	19	Rekindle	1		
Disturbance	3	Smoke Investigation	44		
EMS Standby	1	Structure Fire	52		
Fall	71	Unusual Odor	7		
Family Fight	10	Vehicle Fire	37		
Hemorrhage	9	Wildland Fire	104		
Medical	344				
Overdose	24				
Seizure	45				
Search & Rescue	1				
Stabbing	1				
Stroke	20				
Suicidal Subject	9				
Traumatic Injury	31				
Unconsciousness	29				
<b><u>Total Medical:</u></b>	<b>1032</b>	<b><u>Total Fire &amp; Related:</u></b>	<b>364</b>	<b><u>Total Other:</u></b>	<b>57</b>
<b><u>Total Calls for 2004:</u></b>					<b>1453</b>

**Our Mission...**  
**To provide the best**  
**emergency services**  
**possible to the citizens of**  
**Natrona County with**  
**pride and**  
**professionalism.**

## ***Firefighter Fatalities***

**In 2004 there**  
**were 107**  
**firefighter**  
**fatalities**  
**in the**  
**United States.**



Left—National Fallen  
Firefighters Memorial  
2004  
Right—House Fire West  
of Casper 2002

**Main Office: 234-8826**

**Email: [nfire@trib.com](mailto:nfire@trib.com)**

**Fire Prevention Bureau: 234-4679**

**Email: [ncspd7@natronacounty-wy.gov](mailto:ncspd7@natronacounty-wy.gov)**

**or visit our web site at**

**[www.natronacounty-wy.gov](http://www.natronacounty-wy.gov)**

**Street Address:**

2800 Pheasant Drive

Casper, WY 82604

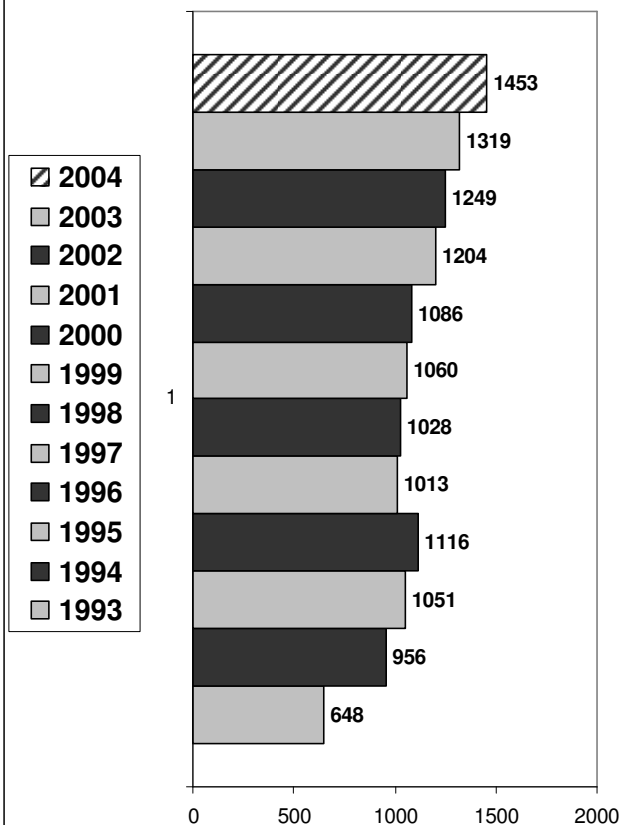
**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 820

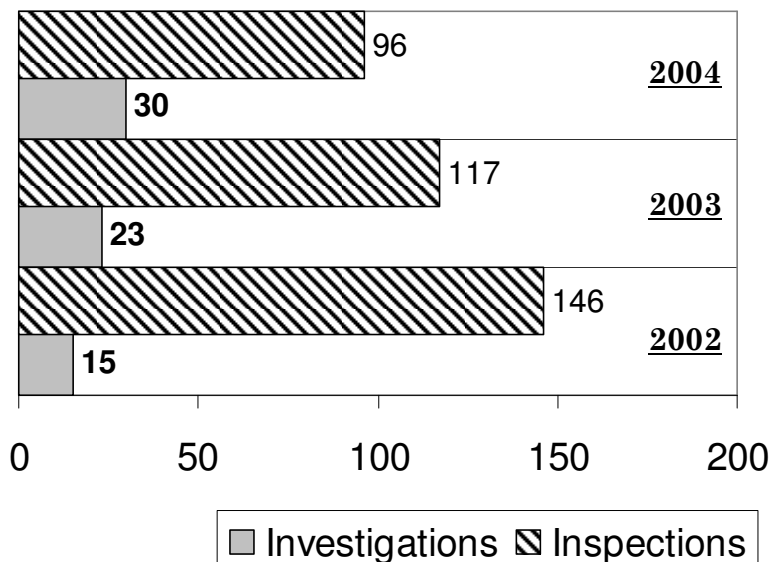
Mills WY, 82644



## **Total Calls**



## **Inspections**



***We will never Forget***

***September 11, 2001***

**Rogue Pup Design 2005**